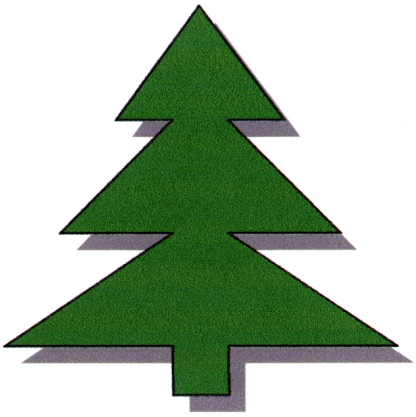
Village of Savoy

Planning for Parks and Recreation



February, 2002

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A STEP TOWARD THE FUTURE

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to recommend opportunities for the development of park and recreation programs and facilities for the residents of Savoy. This report summaries current facilities and recreational opportunities in Savoy, Champaign-Urbana, Champaign County Forest Preserve District and surrounding area. The report evaluates existing and future demand for parks, recreation and open space within the community. A number of recommendations and strategies are put forth for consideration.

Demographics of Savoy

A review of the 2000 census data reveals the characteristics of Savoy residents that are served by local parks and recreation programs and facilities. The data is summarized in next few paragraphs.

* Between 1990 and 2000, the population of Savoy increased 67.39 % from 2674 in 1990 to 4476 in 2000. The 1990 census shows that Savoy increased 25.78% from 1980 from 2126 to 2674. Since 1980 Savoy has had a 105.4% growth rate.

* The average household size had 2.14 persons and the average family size was 2.86 persons.

* The median age of a Savoy resident is 33.6 years. The median age for Champaign township is 37.7, while the median age for Champaign County is 28.6.

* The Census Bureau reports that Savoy has increased in population density from 2,254 per square mile in 1990 to 2900 per square mile in 2000.

* The Census Bureau allowed people to define their own race, and pick more than one choice if they wished. The Census Bureau also considers Hispanic origin an ethnicity, not a race, so a person of Hispanic origin could be of any race. Following is a list of races for Savoy.

White	3,644	81.41% of population
Black	202	4.51% of population
Asian	485	10.84% of population
Native American	7	0.16% of population
Pacific Islander	2	0.04% of population
Other race	35	0.78% of population
Multiracial	101	2.26% of population

* The number of children under 18 years has increased from 617 in 1990 to 944 in 2000. This increase is due to younger families moving into Savoy.

* Median household money income, 1997 model-based estimate was $38,245.

* Per capita personal income for Champaign County in 1999 was $25,233.

* The median house in Savoy cost approximately $105,000.

* For the Metropolitan Statistical Area (Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy) personal income, percent change average annual growth rate between 1969-1999 was 6.9%

* The total housing units in Savoy is 2,099, of these 924 are owner-occupied, while 1,108 are renter occupied. There are 67 vacant housing units in Savoy.

* The population projection for Savoy in 2005 is 5,800 and 7,200 in 2010.

Village of Savoy Parks

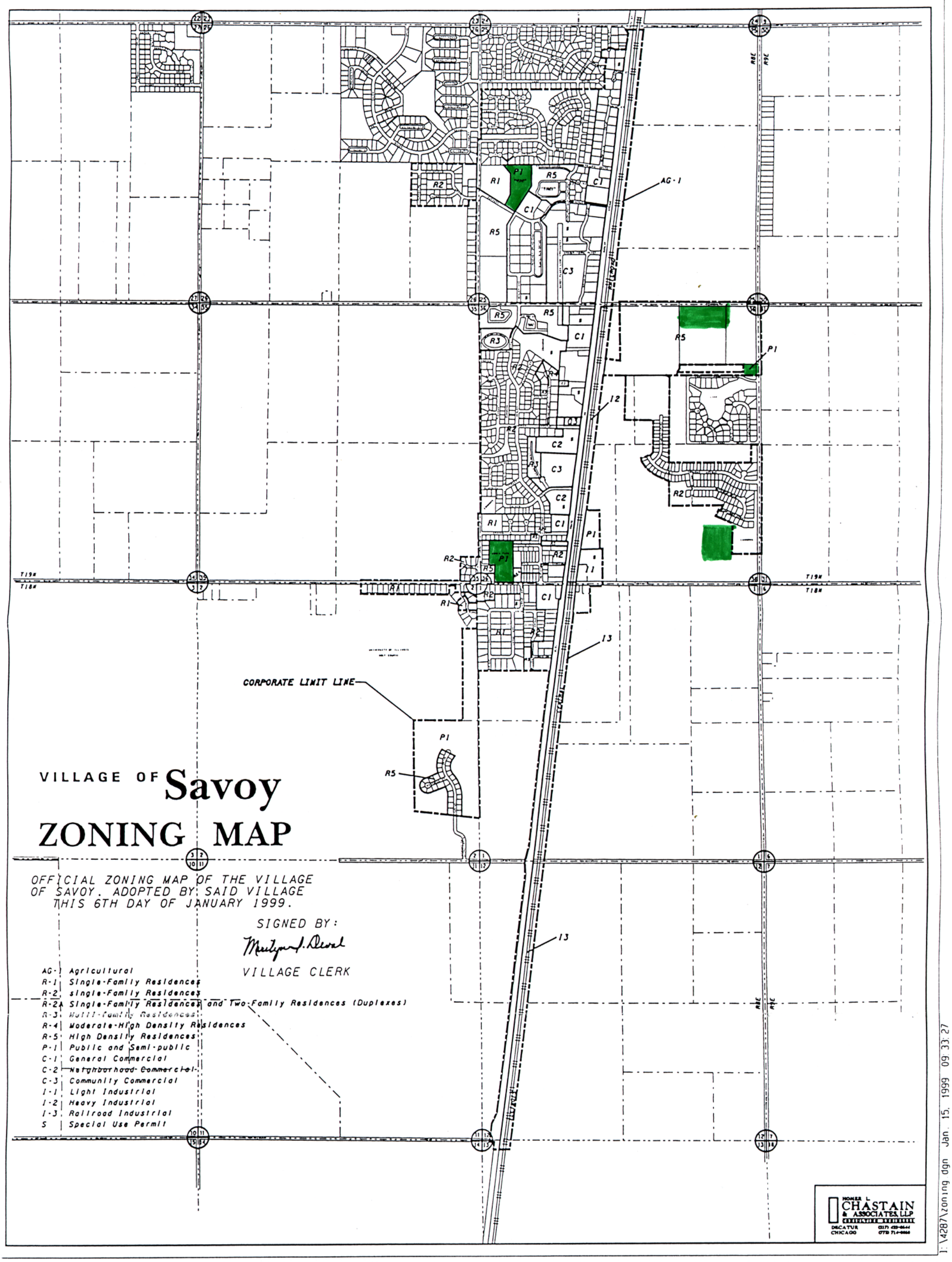
The Village of Savoy has acquired four parks primarily through purchase and dedication. Jones Park and Burwash Park have been developed, while Dohme Park and Prairie Fields Park remain undeveloped. Savoy has a 1.2 mile bike path on the west side of Arbor Meadows that runs north and south.

Burwash Park is well maintained and the playground equipment meets ADA Standards. The tennis courts are in good repair, along with the pavilion. The park contains a little league ball field and a sand volleyball court. Burwash Park is approximately 5 acres in size.

Jones Park contains the old Savoy grade school and a playground for preschool children. There is a softball field, two tennis courts and one soccer field. Jones Park, along with the school contains 5 acres. Overall the park has been well maintained.

Dohme Park was donated to the Village of Savoy by Mr. Richard Burwash and Family. At the request of Mr. Burwash the park was named Dohme Park after a long time family friend. The 3.7 acre park is currently under consideration for development. Champaign County Design and Conservation Foundation currently is holding the park in escrow.

Prairie Fields Park (un-named at this time, but reflects the sub-division name) will be approximately 9.8 acres when developed. The Village of Savoy has an agreement with the sub-division developer to donate 4.9 acres and the Village will purchase the other 4.9 acres.



VILLAGE OF Savoy
ZONING MAP

OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF SAVOY. ADOPTED BY SAID VILLAGE THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY 1999.

SIGNED BY:

Marilyn J. Stroud

VILLAGE CLERK

AG-1	Agricultural
R-1	Single-Family Residences
R-2	Single-Family Residences
R-2A	Single-Family Residences and Two-Family Residences (Duplexes)
R-3	Multi-family Residences
R-4	Moderate-High Density Residences
R-5	High Density Residences
P-1	Public and Semi-public
C-1	General Commercial
C-2	Neighborhood Commercial
C-3	Community Commercial
I-1	Light Industrial
I-2	Heavy Industrial
I-3	Railroad Industrial
S	Special Use Permit

HOMER L. CHASTAIN & ASSOCIATES, LLP
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
DECATUR (217) 428-8644
CHICAGO (773) 714-8866

I:\4287\zoning.dgn Jan. 15, 1999 09:33:27

Other Resources

Savoy residents customarily resort to the recreation programs and facilities offered by neighboring communities and institutions. The following summary descriptions of the facilities, programs, and policies of these outside sources were compiled by reviewing their 2001-2 program literature and visiting some facilities.

Champaign Park District

Facilities--The 90-year-old District operates 35 parks, 2 neighborhood parks, 19 Mini Parks, and 4 greenbelts (a total of 60 parks), plus 9 trails (including several bike trails). These properties amount to over 570 acres. The larger parks include 26 playgrounds, 29 picnic areas, 20 ball fields, 23 basketball courts, 24 tennis courts, and other diverse facilities. The District's 15 structural facilities include its Central Office, Bresnan Meeting Center, Douglass Community Center, Douglass Annex, Hays Center, Kaufman Lake Boathouse, Leonhard Recreation Center, Prairie Farm, Sholem Pool & Waterworks Waterslide, Spalding Park Skatepark, Spalding Pool, Spalding Recreation Center, Springer Cultural Center, the Tennis Center, and the Virginia Theater. Activity rooms are rented in several of these facilities.

Programs--Year-around programming offers educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities to preschool children, youth, and adults, including seniors and persons with disabilities. Sixty of the 80 pages in the District's Spring 2002 program guide list activities: 18 movies and performances in the Virginia Theater and 31 other cultural events; day camps for children and youth; indoor and outdoor sports including aquatics, tennis, martial arts–day trips and longer for skiing, backpacking, canoeing. The District's preschool programs include year-around10-hour-daily sessions, halfday schoolyear sessions, and weekly and one-hour programs. Youth and teen activities are listed as well as extensive cultural arts programming involving music, guitar, dance, potting, drawing, crafts. Many weekly, monthly, and one-time programs are listed for seniors and persons with disabilities. Also offered are wellness fitness, and aerobics programs. Cooperative programs are offered with the Anita Purves Nature Center (Urbana Park District) and the Champaign County Forest Preserve District.

Policies–Residents of Champaign and Urbana Park Districts and the Rantoul Recreation Department pay the regular, listed program fees. In general, non-residents pay double fees to participate in Champaign Park District programs, but they may opt to pay a yearly fee that enables them to pay the resident fees for programs. The yearly fee is calculated by multiplying the assessed valuation of the non-resident's home by the current tax rate of the Champaign Park District. Non-resident renters are charged a flat fee of $50 for the yearly fee option. People who live beside Park District boundaries are not eligible for these non-resident annual fee options, but they may annex their property to the District.

The District updates its five-year capital improvement program every January. Its 1994 long-range plant was supplemented in 2001. Highlights of planning goals are:

1. "...to develop and maintain a neighborhood park within a ½ mile of every resident and a larger

community park within a mile;"
2. "To provide recreation facilities and areas to meet all of the interest and abilities of the residents." To continue renovation of the Virginia Theater, development of the special gardens in Mattis Park, and to upgrade at least one neighborhood playground a year.

3. "...to plan, develop, and maintain bike trails and greenways to meet the needs of the residents";

4. "...to maintain the parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities of the District to a level of excellence of a Gold Medal winning Park District.

Urbana Park District

Facilities–The Urbana Park District operates 19 parks and 2 mini parks occupying an area of about 501 acres–79 acres of which are leased. Two parks include nature preserves: Busey Woods, a restored 59-acre woodland and Meadowbrook, a 130-acres prairie and woodland restoration with extensive, surfaced walkways. Ten parks feature paths and trails. The parks include 17 playgrounds, 10 picnic facilities, 6 ball fields, 4 tennis courts, and other diverse facilities. The District's structural facilities include the Anita Purves Nature Center, Brookens Gym/Athletic Office(leased), Crystal Lake Pool, Darius E. Phebus Administration Building, Field of Greens Miniature Golf (rented), the Lake House at Crystal Lake, Maintenance/ Operations, and Phillips Recreation Center. Activity rooms may be rented in several of these facilities.

Programs–Like Champaign, Urbana Park District operates diverse year-around programs for preschool, youth, teen, and adult age groups and offers special programs for the over-50 and residents with disabilities. Specialized programs for disabled persons are provided by C-U Special Recreation which operates through a cooperative agreement between the Champaign and Urbana Park Districts. Tennis programs are available in 4 parks and also utilize the facilities of the Champaign Park District's Tennis Center. The Aquachiefs program is jointly sponsored by the Champaign and Urbana Park Districts and the Champaign County YMCA and offers training for year-around competitive swimming. To create more options for C-U residents and make use of the District's more extensive natural areas and Anita Purves Nature Center, Urbana's programs offer more natural science and environmental programs than Champaign's. Twenty-nine of the 48 pages of the Districts Winter 2001 Leisure Guide list activities and special events.

The Urbana Park District does not offer day care programs like those provided by the Champaign District, but its Winter 2001 Leisure Guide lists 27 single- and multi-session dance, natural history, swimming, and cultural activities for preschool children. In the same season, 83 Youth and Teen programs offer dance, environmental, fine arts, social, and sports activities that include swimming, basketball, volleyball, rock climbing, martial arts. About 95 Adult and 50-plus programs offer a similar mix with the addition of fitness, wellness, safety, art-of-living and special event programs.

Policies–Reciprocal agreements between the Urbana Park District, the Champaign Park District and the Rantoul Recreation Department enable their residents to pay resident fees for programs in all three systems. Other non-residents pay double fees to participate in Urbana Park District

programs, or they may opt to pay a yearly fee that enables them to pay the resident fee for each program. The yearly fee is calculated by multiplying the assessed valuation of the non-resident's home by the current tax rate of the Urbana Park District.

C-U Special Recreation

A cooperative agreement between the Champaign and Urbana Park Districts created C-U Special Recreation to provide leisure services and programs for residents with disabilities. The activities are described as "... intended to challenge and engage the physical, mental, and emotional resources of each participant" and include youth and adult adapted sports, day camps, outdoor, special event and other recreation programs. (*Funformation: Champaign Park District Program Guide*, Spring 2002, page 62.) Specially qualified staff to participant ratios are kept low.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Division of Campus Recreation

The University of Illinois Golf Course located adjacent to the Savoy on the southwest is a facility of great importance to the village. Developed in the 1940's and lying between Savoy and Willard Airport, it contains two 8-hole courses, a driving range and practice facility, and a clubhouse with locker rooms (no showers), pro shop, and a snack bar offering catering services and space accommodating individuals, small groups, and banquet settings. *Golf Digest* gives the courses a 3½-star rating (of 5 possible. The U of I Golf Course is open to all: T-times are taken daily, 7 days a week. Season rates and daily rates are available to the public; University faculty, staff, and seniors; and high school students.

Although many of programs and events sponsored by the University are open to the general public, use of sports and recreation facilities through Campus Recreation Membership is largely restricted to university students, faculty, and staff and their spouses, partners, and children, and to members of allied agencies, associates, and alumni. To nonmembers living in the surrounding community, Campus Rec does offer some services, rental opportunities, and access to special events. More information about programs, locations, and eligibility for membership is to be found at the Campus Rec website (www.campusrec.uiuc.edu) or by calling 333-3806.

The Tolono Public Library District

Residents of Savoy are members of the Tolono Library District and may use the District's services without charge at its single facility, the Public Library in Tolono. The tax district supporting the Library was created in the late 1960's and includes Tolono, Sadorus, and Savoy. The library occupies a well-designed new building which houses its librarians' offices and workspaces, a large multi-purpose meeting room, restrooms, and its small loan collections of videos, DVD movies, CDs, books, and periodicals. Patrons through online services may arrange interlibrary loans from other libraries in the Lincoln Trail System and search the listings of over 800 Illinois libraries via ILLINET. Persons living outside the District may join the Library for an annual fee of $43. Hours are 10 AM to 8 PM Monday through Friday and 10 AM to 4 PM

Saturdays, except for holidays.

Champaign County Forest Preserve District

Facilities–The District has four major holdings and several small parcels. None of these are adjacent to Savoy–and all but one area are half an hour or more distant from the village by car. The county preserve closest to Savoy is the undeveloped Bodnar Conservation Easement, an 8.8-acre tract less than a half mile northeast of Urbana beside the Saline Branch. Three of the large preserves presently offer many opportunities for outdoor recreation: fishing, hiking, picnicking, bird watching etc.

Lake of the Woods County Park, approximately 16 miles north and west of Savoy, contains about 900 acres lying on both sides of the Sangamon River, just north of I-74 and the older part of Mahomet. Almost 600 acres of the Park are interrupted tracts of scrub and disturbed woodland in various stages of recovery from farm use before 1940. The developed acreage contains the Early American Museum, the Mabery Gelvin Botanical Gardens, the 180-acre18-hole Hartwell C. Howard Golf Course, and several picturesque structures. The District's Headquarters and West Maintenance facility are located here. The Golf Course Clubhouse and other enclosed buildings and open-air shelters are available for rentals. The artificial lake is open to fishing, boating, and swimming. The Riverview Retreat Center on the Sangamon and about 2 miles north of Lake of the Woods contains 23 acres and a rental cabin.

Lakes at River Bend was purchased in 2001 and consists of about 350 undeveloped acres in the floodplain and lowlands beside the Sangamon south of Mahomet. The property contains scrub woodlands, farmed acreages, and active and abandoned gravel pits. There is no public access to the holding at this time, but the large strip mine lakes will eventually provide boating and fishing. The land areas, which lie within the area of the historic Sangamon Timber, will be reforested and accommodate low-impact outdoor recreation activities.

Salt Fork River Forest Preserve consists of about 828 acres along the Salt Fork River about 14 miles east of Savoy and 2 miles north of Homer. Its major facilities are its Environmental Education Center, Walnut Hill Shelter, the new Outdoor Recreation Center, and several boat launching ramps. The preserve contains high quality woodlands, a historic maple sugar grove, reforested tracts, and other wildlife conservation areas. It has an extensive network of hiking trails, playground and picnic areas, and its 100-acre Homer Lake is heavily fished. Collins Memorial Woods with its pond forms an extension of the Preserve at its south end, and the 28 acres of the recently acquired Old Homer Park are located a mile and a half east of the main entrance.

Middle Fork River Forest Preserve is about 35 miles north and east of Savoy in the northeast corner of the county. The largest preserve in the system, consisting of about 1,535 acres along the Middle Fork River, it contains the 130-acre Waterfowl Management Area to provide nesting habitat for ducks and geese, extensive tracts of second growth woodland, and several marsh and prairie restorations. Outlying holdings are Tomlinson Cemetery (about 1 acre preserving original prairie, four miles northeast of Penfield), and Patton's Woods (14 acres of high quality woodland, a half mile west of the Middle Fork Preserve and seven miles east of Ludlow). The preserve

contains several artificial ponds for fishing, a swimming beach and showerhouse, a heated and enclosed activity center, primitive and vehicular campgrounds, hiking trails, wildlife viewing areas and playgrounds.

Programs–At Lake of the Woods, The District offers lessons and organizes tournaments at its golf course, provides gardening and other horticultural programs at the Botanical Gardens, and cultural and historical programs at the museum and outreach sites. Environmental Education programs and other seasonal activities are offered at all sites. Programming, in general, is offered to all age groups and tends to emphasize features found at the sites and topics of local and regional interest.

Policies–The 1994 Master Plan states:

> The mission of the Champaign County Forest Preserve District is to provide for the citizens and guests of Champaign County: (1) the protection and preservation of the physical and biological integrity of District holdings through the conservation of our natural and historic resources; (2) educational opportunities for increasing the knowledge and appreciation of these resources; and (3) recreational opportunities consistent with preserving the natural qualities of the Forest Preserve District resource base.

All county residents have equal access to these properties and their accommodations. The District strives to develop and maintain handicapped accessible features and programs.

Champaign County YMCA

Facilities--The YMCA is a nonprofit charitable organization offering programs for recreation and character development to people all ages in Champaign, Urbana, and the outlying communities. Founded in 1938, the local YMCA now has more than 3000 members utilizing its two facilities: the **McKinley Family Center** (500 West Church Street, Champaign) and the **Fitness & Family Center** (707 North Country Fair Drive, Champaign). Facilities include gyms, gymnastics center, pools, meeting rooms, exercise rooms, and other activity areas.

Programs–Offerings include aquatics, family activities, children's and youth activities, fitness, gymnastics and other individual and team sports. All activities are designed to develop individual social skills and character.

Policies–The YMCA is a Christian organization open to persons of all races, religions, and economic backgrounds. Membership is offered in two categories–Individual and Family–upon paying an enrollment fee as a first-time applicant or after a 30-day lapse in membership. Members can use both facilities and received reduced member rates for all classes and special programs. Financial assistance from contributed funds is provided to persons who cannot afford ordinary fees and charges. The programs and facilities are ADA compliant.

Needs Assessment

The needs assessment portion of this report reflects the attitudes, interest, and opinions of the residents of the Village of Savoy. The technique of mailing surveys to a random sample of households in Savoy provides a unique opportunity to reach residents that may not normally interact with the Village.

The random sample was chosen by using voter records provided by the Champaign County Clerks Office. After the sample was drawn, the surveys were mailed to 282 Savoy residents. The mailing included the survey instrument, a cover letter, and a postage-paid return envelope. This mailing was sent first class so that any undeliverable pieces would be returned and the addresses culled from the sample. Because of the general high turnover in local residences in a university community it was anticipated that there would be a significant number of unusable addresses. That was the case, as 50 were returned by the postal service, thus reducing the effective sample to 232. From this process 103 usable surveys were returned, providing a net response rate of 44.4%. The response rate is adequate for a reliable interpretation of the data.

Raw survey data was analyzed and is provided below in visual depiction of the frequencies. The discussion below will follow the order in which the questions were placed on the questionnaire. It should be noted that the participation patterns may be good estimators of demand for services and thus represent indices of where the Village of Savoy should focus on future development and expansion.

1. How many people in each age category live in your residence?
   0-19 (62) 23.9% 20-29 (20) 7.7% 30-39 (29) 11.2% 40-49 (38) 14.7%
   50-59 (57) 22.0% 60+ (53) 20.5%

2. Are you aware that the Village of Savoy is considering a new community center?
   Yes (33) 32.0% No (70) 68.0%

3. Do you think the Village of Savoy should build a community center? Yes (47) 45.6%
   No (27) 26.2% No Opinion (28) 27.2% 1% unresponsive

4. Currently the Village of Savoy has about 12 acres of land devoted to parks. The national standards say we should have approximately 50 acres of parks. Do you feel the Village should have an active program to acquire more open space?
   Yes (55) 53.4% No (27) 26.2% No Opinion (21) 20.4%

5. Do you think it is a good idea to have a satellite library in a new community center?
   Yes (67) 65.0% No (21) 20.4% No Opinion (15) 14.6%

6. Should the Village of Savoy build a new outdoor Swimming pool? Yes (28) 27.2%
   No (55) 53.4% No Opinion (20) 19.4%

7. Would you support using property taxes to finance new park and recreation facilities?
   Yes (46) 44.7% No (42) 40.8% No Opinion (12) 11.7%

8. Would you support using property taxes to cover costs above and beyond what fund raising and grants do not cover? Yes (43) 41.8% No (42) 40.8%
   No Opinion (11) 10.6% 6.7% unresponsive

9. Would you consider a construction donation in support of new park and recreation facilities? Yes (26) 25.2% No (56) 54.4% No Opinion (21) 20.4%

10. Would you support a ½ cent sales tax to help with land acquisition and park development? Yes (54) 52.3% No (41) 37.9% No Opinion (8) 7.8%

11. If a new community center were built in Savoy would you be willing to pay a reasonable fee to participate in programs? Yes (60) 58.3% No (20) 19.4%
    No Opinion (18) 17.4% 4.8% unresponsive

12. Would you or your family support a community center in Savoy with your attendance/participation? Yes (57) 55.3% No (24) 23.3% No Opinion (18) 17.4%
    3.9% unresponsive

Discussion

Tables 1 and 2 summarize the data obtained from the returned survey forms. Table 1 displays respondent preferences for the new facilities described by Questions 3,4,5, and 6. Table 2 displays preferences for the four fund raising methods described by Questions 7, 8, 9, and10. Columns (A), (B), and (C) are the same in both tables and display the age categories listed in Question 1 (Column A); the number and percentage of individuals counted in each category (B); the number and percentage of respondents assigned to each age category (C).

The tally of Question 1 (see Columns A and B) reveals that the survey sampled a village population of 259 individuals whose age distribution closely corresponds to the age distribution reported for Savoy by the U.S. Census 2000. (see U.S. Census Bureau Table DP-1 "Profile of General Demographic Characteristics...," p. 2599.)

Age Categories	U.S. Census of Savoy–no. and %		Planning Survey–no and %	
0 to 19 years	997	22.3 %	62	23.9 %
20 to 59 years	2,685	60.0	144	55.6
60 + years	794	17.7	53	20.5
Totals	4,476	100.0	259	100.0

The 2000 Census reports the median age of Savoy's population is 33.6 years. The median age of the survey population is somewhat older: the median of 259 (129.5) falls in the 40 - 49 years survey category.

By design the planning survey preferentially sampled the older residents of the village--the ones more likely to be interested and influential in the issues of local government raised by the questionnaire. Mailing the questionnaire to households of registered voters determined that a large proportion of returns probably would be from older, longer term village residents who have formed opinions about the new facilities and funding methods posed by the questions and who are more motivated by interest to respond. Conversely, it was assumed that opinions represented by the younger categories which contain dependent minors and transient young adults would be under-represented.

Note that in all questions the two oldest age categories (50-59 and 60+) have the most influence on the survey's results: although this over-50 age group was equal in size to the 0-39 age group it returned more than 3 times the number of questionnaires. Column B shows that the over 50 age group consists of 42.5% (110) of the total 259 residents reported by the tally of Question 1 yet it is assumed to have returned 62.1% (64) of the 103 questionnaires counted by the survey (Column C). The three youngest age categories comprise the 0-39 age group. The 0-39 group represents virtually the same number of individuals as the over-50 group–111 (42.8%) of the 259 total–but it returned only 18 questionnaires (7.5%) of the total 103.

With the single exception of the Outdoor Pool proposal, the survey respondents indicate a community of opinion that strongly favors Community Center, Open Space, and Satellite Library facilities. Columns D, E, F, and G of Table 1 display the "yes" and "no opinion" tallies for Survey Questions 3, 4, 5, and 6. The most strongly supported proposal–the Satellite Library--received 67 "yes" responses which constitute 65.0% of the 103 questionnaires counted.. This question also received 15 "no opinion" responses, and so the combined positive and neutral responses equal 82 or 79.6% of the total 103. Similarly the Open Space question received 55 positive responses constituting 53.5% of 103 returns. This question received 21 neutral responses, and its combined positive and neutral responses equal 76 or 73.8% of the total. The Community Center question received 47 "yes" responses (45.6%) and 28 "no opinion" responses for a combined total of 75 (72.8%).

Neutral responses are considered in addition to positive responses because in ordinary circumstances some fraction of them–probably in proportion to the declared "yes" votes–can be converted to "yes" <u>if a desired facility and a generally acceptable funding proposal are effectively promoted.</u> "No opinion" responses are not so much evidence of indifference as some measurement of need to be informed. Questions 4, 5, 6, and 7 elicited 28, 21, 15, and 20 "no opinion" responses--respectively 27.2%, 20.3%,14.6%, and 19.4% of respondents. These are large numbers and some confirmation that the group as a whole came to the survey "cold"–that is to say unprepared, with little more information and feeling about the topics than ordinary experience would provide. More evidence for this conclusion is provided by Question 2: "Are you aware that the village of Savoy is considering a new community center?" Seventy of 103 respondents–68%–said "no."

Interpreting the 28 "no opinion" responses for the Community Center as a factor susceptible to positive change, one can say that the Center is a viable project. Its 47 "yes" responses (45.6%) and 28 "no opinion" responses produce a combined total of 75 (72.8%).

Of the four funding methods proposed to develop new facilities, only the ½-cent Sales Tax option (Question 10) received a majority of "yes" responses. Table 2 displays the analysis of Questions 7, 8, 9, and 10 which sampled preferences for the types of funding that might be used to develop new recreational facilities. Fifty-four (52.3%) of the 103 respondents favored using a ½-cent sales tax; only 8 respondents to this question answered "no opinion," yielding a combined total of 62 (60.2%). This favorable result must be regarded with the caution that is appropriate to all considerations of public funding.

Note, for example that the range of "no opinion" responses to the four funding questions is narrower (8 to 21) than the range recorded for the four new facilities questions (15 to 28). Coming to the questionnaires unprepared or "cold,"more respondents have definite opinions–and apprehensions--about money issues than they do about facility choices.

The two options for using property taxes to fund new recreation facilities (Questions 7 and 8) were marginally disapproved. Answering Question 7, 46 respondents (44.7%) favored using property taxes to fund all costs, and 12 recorded "no opinion," giving a total of 58 (56.3%) positive and neutral responses of 103 counted. Forty-three (41.8%) of respondents answering Question 8 favored using property taxes after other initial funding was secured; 11 answered "no

opinion," yielding a total of 54 (52.4%) positive and neutral responses. These marginally negative returns for the two questions are not sufficient in themselves to discourage more consideration of property tax funding for recreational facilities. "Property tax" is a loaded word in local communities, and the responses to Questions 7 and 8 are probably little different than the ordinary taxpayer's reaction to any speculative proposal seeking unspecified amounts of property taxes to secure vague or hypothetical benefits. A needed, carefully planned and publicized project could secure community approval.

The Donation option (Question 9) received positive answers from 26 (25.2%) of the 103 respondents, revealing a sizeable, potential donor pool. Another way of stating this result: one in four of the Savoy residents participating in the survey expressed willingness to give something of their means to provide new park and recreation facilities. Question 9 was posed in order to make a very approximate, early appraisal of the potential donor pool among Savoy residents. This level of positive response indicates that many people in our community see the projects represented by the survey as worthy of their direct contributions of time, talent, and money. An effective campaign to build these facilities will need to engage them.

(A) Age categories in Question 1	(B) Individuals reported in each category (as % of 259)	(C) No. of respondents in each each age category [1] (as % of 103)	(D) "Yes" answers to Question 3 -- Comm. Center (as % of 103) [2]	(E) "Yes" answers to Question 4 -- Open Space (as % of 103)	(F) "Yes" answers to Question 5 -- Library (as % of 103)	(G) "Yes" answers to Question 6-- Outdoor Pool (as % of 103)
0 - 19 years	62 (23.9 %)	1 (0.9 %)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0 %)	0 (0.0 %)	0 (0.0 %)
20 - 29	20 (7.7)	5 (4.9)	4 (3.9)	4 (3.9)	4 (3.9)	3 (2.9)
30 - 39	29 (11.2)	12 (11.7)	7 (6.8)	8 (7.8)	11 (10.7)	7 (6.8)
40 - 49	38 (14.7)	21 (20.4)	10 (9.7)	17 (16.5)	13 (12.6)	6 (5.8)
50 - 59	57 (22.0)	29 (28.2)	12 (11.6)	14 (13.6)	17 (16.5)	8 (7.8)
60 +	53 (20.5)	35 (33.9)	14 (13.6)	12 (11.7)	22 (21.4)	4 (3.9)
Totals	259 (100.0 %)	103 (100.0 %)	47 (45.6 %) +28 no opinion =75 (72.8 %)	55 (53.5 %) +21 no opinion =76 (73.8 %)	67 (65.0 %) +15 no opinion =82 (79.6 %)	28 (27.2 %) +20 no opinion =48 (46.6 %)

TABLE 1. Analysis of preferences expressed for the new facilities named in Survey Questions 3, 4, 5, and 6.

[1] For convenience, the age of a respondent (the person completing a form) is assumed to fall in the oldest category checked on the form. This is often the case, but is certainly true only if one age category was checked on the form.

[2] 103 survey forms were returned and counted for this study, and this number is always used to calculate percentages reported here. However, there were not always 103 valid answers to each question. The few responses that did not answer questions or comment in ways that could be taken as "yes," "no," or "no opinion" answers were not counted..

(A) Age categories in Question 1	(B) Individuals reported in each category (as % of 259)	(C) No. of respondents in each each age category [1] (as % of 103)	(D) "Yes" answers to Question 7 -- Property Taxes for all costs (as % of 103) [2]	(E) "Yes" answers to Question 8 -- Property Taxes after grants, etc. (as % of 103)	(F) "Yes" answers to Question 9 – Donation for construction (as % of 103)	(G) "Yes" answers to Question 10 -- ½ Cent Sales Tax (as % of 103)
0 - 19 years	62 (23.9 %)	1 (0.9 %)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0 %)	0 (0.0 %)	0 (0.0 %)
20 - 29	20 (7.7)	5 (4.9)	3 (2.9)	2 (1.9)	3 (2.9)	3 (2.9)
30 - 39	29 (11.2)	12 (11.7)	8 (7.8)	8 (7.8)	6 (5.8)	9 (8.7)
40 - 49	38 (14.7)	21 (20.4)	13 (12.6)	12 (11.7)	5 (4.9)	13 (12.6)
50 - 59	57 (22.0)	29 (28.2)	12 (11.7)	13 (12.6)	5 (4.9)	13 (12.6)
60 +	53 (20.5)	35 (33.9)	10 (9.7)	8 (7.8)	7 (6.8)	16 (15.5)
Totals	259 (100.0 %)	103 (100.0 %)	46 (44.7 %) +12 no opinion =58 (56.3 %)	43 (41.8 %) +11 no opinion =54 (52.4 %)	26 (25.2 %) +21 no opinion =47 (45.6 %)	54 (52.3 %) +8 no opinion =62 (60.2 %)

TABLE 2. Analysis of preferences expressed for the funding methods described in Survey Questions 7, 8, 9, and 10.

[1] For convenience, the age of a respondent (the person completing a form) is assumed to fall in the oldest category checked on the form. This is often the case, but is certainly true only if one age category was checked on the form.

[2] 103 survey forms were counted for this study, and this number is always used to calculate percentages reported here. However, there were not always 103 valid answers to each question. The few responses that did not answer questions or comment in ways that could be taken as "yes," "no," or "no opinion" answers were not counted..

Written Comments From The Savoy
Park Plan Survey

- If you have a community center, it would probably be a good idea to have some sort of library in it. However, I have rarely found a book in a smaller library, abd usually end up at the main Champaign library. Although Tolono does have the usual best sellers (but that is not what I usually want). As older residents of the Arbours, we feel more kinship with Champaign. Maybe newer residents of newer areas feel differently.
- What type of programs?
- If we're going to have parks, let them be parks like Burwash and Jones. I'd like to see some native prairie plants in our parks.It's important that you ask our opinions! Thanks!!
- We feel a police department should come first, then land for parks, then development.
- We have an elected trustee group who should research and decide these matters.
- There are some(sp) many parks and libraries in the surrounding area that, I feel no more needs to be built at this time.
- How about having an amusement tax of 25 cents per admission to help finance recreation. The show/skateland----future entertainment venues.
- If it's a swimming pool.
- Our family does enjoy Burwash Park, the bike trail to Old Savoy and the open spaces of the Arbours. We are more likley to frequent Champaign parks and the Champaign library, however because our work, school and shopping habits are more likley to take us north into Champaign, rather than south into Old Savoy. We would be willing to pay increased property taxes for more open spaces but not a community center.What does this mean? Do you want people to donate money or costruction services?
- We would support a pool and/or community center as long as it doesn't impact existing park and public spaces.
- Our taxes are high enough.
- From the looks of things Savoy is only going to continue to grow along with Champaign-Urbana so starting these types of things now only help the growth and attract people to our community.
- Taxes will cover.
- I think the parks and recreation area would be good. I'm not sure what you would use the community (center) for, but aren't there enough buildings around that can be rented? If not Savoy, then Champaign-Urbana.
- We live in the Arbours and have a park very close. I don't know about the rest. Depends on the activities.
- We were not aware of this direction Savoy is looking to move into. We need to give this some more thought. Would not want to be commited at this time--- but have strong interest.
- Until we have our own organized "Police Dept" for our village, I would not support 1 cent being used for some other purpose.

- I believe there is plenty of park and recreation facilities in Champaign County for my children and grandchildren.
- Would donate labor-not money.
- We need a library!
- Thank you for taking the time to ask.
- Feel a police force should be a priority before building a community center.
- Our taxes are high enough!
- Our ages are 88 and 83 years.
- We have a beautiful library in Tolono. It would be very costly to staff and buy all the necessary books, plus utilities, ect. Whenever it can be properly funded and operated. (Pool)
- Savoy really needs a new satellite library as a first priority. Community center as a 2nd priority. This could be constructed as a co-located facility.
- Absolutley and library district should pay rent and staffing. Developers should donate it like in Champaign and Urbana. Maybe, depends on amount of levy.
- We do not need to duplicate efforts when excellent services are already available in adjacent communities. Work on maintaining current projects, e.g., consistent electricity, to existing enterprises before expanding to new agendas.
- Yes on the assumption that Savoy is going through high growth. Some thing east of Neil Street. I always think libraries are a good idea, but Tolono is not too far and I use it on a very regular basis. As a portion of existing taxes yes. Raising taxes, no. Prefer sales option to property tax.
- Only thing I'd like is a few fenced acres for dogs off leash to run and socialize. Would support an annual fee (or similar funding) for that.
- Our taxes are to high now!
- Use old school house.
- Yes if existing property tax money is diverted. No if property taxes are raised. Depends on programs and what reasonable fee is.
- When is Savoy going to join Champaign and Urbana and ban leaf burning. Or if not, how about a designated burning area in front of the Village Hall?

Strategies for Park and Recreation

Based on a study of existing facilities some generalizations can be made about needed developments. This is a very broad and preliminary study which does not attempt in most instances to measure and define needs for very specific programs. Of the issues raised by this study, land acquisition and the development of a community center are matters of foremost concern.

1. Conservative professional standards show that the Village of Savoy has only 50% of the open space needed for parks and recreation. The cost of land, constraints on the growth of the Village and difficultly of connecting open space areas will increase with time. Savoy should implement a program to acquire land in order to meet minimum standards as recommended by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

2. To improve accessibility to open space and connection between elements of the system.

   - Require local neighborhood parks.
   - Link park components to neighborhoods with safe pedestrian and bicycle routes.

3. It is recommended that the Village of Savoy should form a park and recreation committee to provide public input on the needs and wants of the citizens. A list of volunteers from the Savoy Park Survey is provided in the appendix of this report.

4. The Village of Savoy should adopt and enforce a subdivision ordinance that will provide adequate open space for parks and recreation. It must be noted that 53.5% of respondents to the survey believed that the Village should develop an active program to acquire more open space. Only 16.2% of the respondents said the Village should not. Article 6 section 6.1 of

the Savoy subdivision ordinance also should be amended to take into account population density.

5. Since so many demands are being placed on land for other than recreation uses, the Village of Savoy should look into all the possibilities of acquiring land with all the available methods. The methods of land acquisition include purchase, leasing, conservation easements, gifts and donations, and federal and state grant programs.

6. As Savoy continues to evolve into a developed community, its growing population will require a higher level of parks and recreation services and will look for facilities that accommodate social functions and activities for the whole community. A community center will be needed to provide a central location for meeting spaces and other facilities such as a library. The survey responses indicate a potentially high level of acceptance for a community center.

7. The Village of Savoy should develop conceptual park plans for Dohme Park and Prairie Fields Park.

8. It is recommended that the Village of Savoy consider using the Tomaras underpass lot as a mini-park for the residents of Prairie Fields.

Savoy Park Properties

The existing parks need only minor improvements to meet the needs of future growth and development.

1. The south entrance to Burwash Park is not inviting or attractive because of signage and a lack of landscaping. It is recommended that the Governors Home Award sign be moved and replaced with a flower bed.

2. The addition of an enclosure for the seasonal porta-potty would enhance visual aspects of Burwash Park.

3. Hard paths, benches and pavilions are the minimal facilities appreciated by park users. The addition of a picnic pavilion, tables and benches in Jones Park would enhance visitor use.

Funding Sources for Parks and Recreation

The Village of Savoy is qualified to receive financial assistance from a number of recreational grants-in-aid programs.administered by the Office of Capital Development (OCD) of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). These are competitive programs financed by federal and state funds. Except for the comments in brackets, the following information is directly quoted from several IDNR home pages (*dnr.state.il.us/ocd*) where the complete texts are found.

Open Lands Trust (OLT) Program: The Open Lands Trust (OLT) Program is authorized for a four year period beginning in FY 2000 to provide grant funding assistance on a competitive basis to eligible local units of government for the acquisition of land **from willing sellers** for public conservation, open space and natural resource-related recreation purposes. Funding assistance up to 50% of eligible project costs, or 90% for agencies qualifying as "economically disadvantaged," is available through the program. The maximum grant award for any single project is $2.0 million annually. A conservation easement shall be conveyed to IDNR for all property acquired with OLT assistance. The deadline date for submitting applications to IDNR for this program is publicly announced each year. [Extracted from the posting on *dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newolt* 12 FEB 02]

Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program: The Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks or tot lots to large community and county parks and nature areas. The program is financed by a percentage of the state's Real Estate Transfer Tax.

Under the OSLAD program, funding assistance up to 50% of approved project costs can be obtained. Grant awards up to $750,000 are available for acquisition projects, while development /renovation projects are limited to a $400,000 grant maximum.

Written applications must be submitted to IDNR between May 1 and July 1 of each calendar year, with grant awards typically announced by December or January. Only those local government agencies having statutory authority to acquire and develop land for public park purposes are eligible to apply for and receive assistance under the OSLAD grant program. [Some examples of eligible projects: acquisition of land for new park sites or park expansion and natural resource preservation; development/renovation of picnic and playground facilities, sports courts and play fields, winter sports facilities, park roads and paths, parking, utilities, and restrooms, and architectural/engineering services necessary for proper design and construction of approved project components. Extracted from the posting on *dnr.state.il.us/ocd/Oslad1* 12 FEB 02]

Illinois Trails Grant Programs: The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) administers five (5) grant programs that can provide funding assistance to acquire, develop and, in some cases, maintain trails for a variety of public recreation uses. These programs can also restore areas damaged by unauthorized trail use activity. [At least two of these are relevant to the

needs of the village: The Bike Path Program–described below–and the Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The TEA-21 Program is the same as the RTP program.]

The Illinois Trails Grant Programs manual provides information on program regulations and procedures for making application to the IDNR for funding consideration under any of these programs. Application forms and instructions for making application to the IDNR are also in this manual. [Extracted from the posting on *dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newtrail* 12 FEB 02]

Illinois Bicycle Path Program: The Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Program was created in 1990 to financially assist eligible units of government acquire, construct, and rehabilitate public non-motorized bicycle paths and directly related support facilities. Grants are available to any local government agency having statutory authority to acquire and develop land for public bicycle path purposes.

Financial assistance up to 50% of approved project costs is available through the program. Maximum grant awards for development projects are limited to $200,000 per annual request; no maximum exists for acquisition projects. Revenue for the program comes from a percentage of vehicle title fees collected pursuant to Section 3-821(f) of the Illinois vehicle code.

Applications for grant assistance must be received by IDNR by March 1 of each calendar year. Applications are evaluated on a competitive basis according to criteria set by the Department. Grant awards are generally announced within six months following the application deadline date. [Extracted from posting on *dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newbike2* 12 FEB 02]

Recreational Trails Program (RTP): The federal "Recreational Trails Program" (RTP), was created through the National Recreational Trail Fund Act (NRTFA) as part of the *Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA)* and re-authorized by the *Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA 21).* This program provides funding assistance for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails. By law, 30% of each state's RTP funding must be earmarked for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized trail projects and the remaining 40% for multi-use (diversified) and non-motorized trails or a combination of either. Eligible applicants include federal, state, and local government agencies and not-for-profit organizations.

The RTP program can provide up to 80% federal funding on approved projects and requires a minimum 20% non-federal funding match. Applications for grant assistance must be received by IDNR no later than March 1 of each calendar year. Awards are generally announced within 180 days following the application deadline date.

Examples of eligible project activities include:

- trail construction and rehabilitation;
- restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized trail uses;
- construction of trail-related support facilities and amenities; and

acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easement or fee simple title.

[Extracted from posting on *dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newrtp2* 12 FEB 02]

Level of Service

The level of service guideline is a ratio expressed as acres/1,000 population which represents the minimum amount of ground space needed to meet the recreation services desired by the citizens. Currently the Illinois Department of Natural Resources uses 10 acres per 1,000 population as a bench mark. It should be noted that the level of service guideline is only a minimum amount of open space.

In addition to the calculated park and recreation guidelines, the Village of Savoy is encouraged to work with citizens to acquire and appropriately protect and manage a complementary open space system.

The level of service is an expression of the essential ingredients needed to provide the level of park and recreation services desired by the customers in a community. In parks and recreation it is assumed that the needs of the customer will be satisfied within a well designed, safe park and recreation setting.

Park, Recreation and Greenways Classification Guidelines are expressions of the amount of land a community determines should constitute the minimum acreage and development criteria for different classifications or types of parks, open space, and greenways.

The following classifications are intended to be used as guidelines at the local level. They include mini-park, neighborhood park, school-park, community park, large urban park, athletic fields, special use, private park/recreation facility, natural resources area, and greenways.

The classification system recommended for pathway facilities is needed to plan for these facilities in a comprehensive fashion. Pathways accommodate lightweight, slower moving, and non-motorized forms of transportation.

A list for Suggested Outdoor Facility Development Standards is provided for future parks and recreation planning needs. The recommended space requirements will assist in planning and development of areas and facilities.

Suggested Outdoor Facility Development Standards

Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
Badminton	Singles—17' x 44' Doubles—20' x44' with 5' unobstructed area on both sides.	1622 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	1/4 - 1/2 mile. Usually in school recreation center or church facility. Safe walking or biking or biking access.
Basketball				
1. Youth	46' - 50' x 84'	2400-3036 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	1/4 - 1/2 mile. Same as badminton. Outdoor courts in neighborhood/community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
2. High school	50' x 84'	5040-7280 sq. ft.		
3. Collegiate	50' x 94' with 5' unobstructed space all sides.	5600-7980 sq. ft.		
Handball (3-4 wall)	20' x 40' with a minimum of 10' to rear of 3-wall court. Minimum 20' overhead clearance.	800 sq. ft. for 4-wall, 1000 sq. ft. for 3-wall.	Long axis is north - south. Front wall at north end.	15 - 30 min. travel time, 4-wall usually indoor as part of multi-purpose building. 3-2 all usually in park or school setting.
Ice hockey	Rink 85' x 200' (Min. 85' x 185') Additional 5000 22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	Long axis is north - south if outdoors.	1/2 - 1 hour travel time. Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multi-purpose facility.
Tennis	36' x 78'. 12 ft. clearance on both ends.	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court area (2 acres per complex).	Long axis north - south.	1/4 - 1/2 mile. best in batteries of 2 - 4. Located in neighborhood/ community park or near school site.
Volleyball	30' x 60'. Minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 4,000 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south.	1/2 - 1 mile.
Baseball				
1. Official	Baselines - 90' Pitching dist.- 60.5' Foul lines - min. 320' Center field - 400'+	3.0 -3.85 A min.	Locate home plate so pitcher is not throwing across sun, and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound to run east-northeast.	1/4-1/2 mile. Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.
2. Little League	Baselines - 60' Pitching distance-46' Foul lines - 200' Center field - 200'-250'	1.2 A min.		
Field Hockey	180' x 300' with a minimum of 10' clearance on all sides	Minimun 1.5 A	Fall season - Long axis northwest or southeast. For longer periods, north/south	15-30 minute travel time. Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.
Football	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Same as field hockey.	15 - 30 min. travel time. Same is field hockey.
Soccer	195' to 225' x 330' to 360' with 10' minimum clearance on all sides.	1.7 - 2.1 A.	Same as field hockey.	1 - 2 miles. Number of units depends on popularity. Youth popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to fields or neighborhood parks.

Golf - driving range	900' x 690' wide. Add 12' width each additional tee.	13.5 A for min. of 25 tees.	Long axis is southwest -northeast with golfer driving northeast.	30 minute travel time. Park of golf course complex. As separate unit may be privately operated.
1/4 mile running track	Over-all width - 276' length -600'. Track width for 8 - 4 lanes is 32'.	4.3 A	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest - southeast, with finish line at north end.	15-30 minute travel time. Usually part of a high school or community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Softball	Baselines - 60' pitching dist. - 45' men. 40' women Fast pitch field radius from plate - 225' Slow pitch - 275' (men) 250' (women).	1.5 - 2.0 A	Same as baseball. indimensions for 16".	1/4 - 1/2 mile. Slight difference May also be used for youth baseball.
Multiple use court (basketball, tennis, etc.)	120' x 80'	9,840 sq. ft.	Long axis of court with primary use north and south.	1 - 2 miles, in neighborhood or community parks.
Archery range	300' length x minimum 10' between targets. Roped, clear area on side of range minimum 30', clear space behind targets minimum of 90' x 45' with bunker.	Minimum 0.65 A	Archer facing north + or - 45 degrees.	30 minutes travel time. Part of a regional/metro complex.
Golf				
1. Par 3 (18 hole)	Average length varies -600 - 2700 yards.	50 - 60 A	Majority of holes on north/south axis	1/2 - 1 hour travel time
2. 9-hole standard	Average length 2250 yards.	Minimum of 50 A		9-hole course can accomodate 350 people/day.
3. 18-hole standard	Average length 6500 yards.	Minimum 110 yds		500 - 550 people/day. Course may be located in community, district or regional/metro park.
Swimming pools	Teaching - min. 25 yds x 45' even depth of 3-4 ft. Competitive - min. 25 m x 16 m. Min. of 25 sq. ft. water surface per swimmer. Ration of 2 to 1 deck to water.	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually 1 - 2 A sites.	None, but care must be taken in siting life stations in relation to afternoon sun	15 to 30 minute travel time. Pools for general community use should planned for teaching competitive and recreational purposes with enough to accomodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
Beach areas	Beach area should have 50 sq. ft. of land and 50 sa. ft. of water per user. Turnover rate is 3. There should be a 3 -4 A supporting area per A of beach.	N/A	N/A	1/2 to 1 hour travel time. Should have a sand bottom with a maximum slope of 5%. Boating areas completely segregated from swimming areas. In regional/metro parks.

The following table provides an overview of the classifications for parks, recreation areas open space, and pathways.

Parks, Open Space, and Pathways Classifications Table

Parks and Open Space Classifications

Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria	Application of LOS
Mini-Park	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Less than a 1/4 mile distance in residential setting.	Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size	Yes
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	1/4 to 1/2 mile distance and ininterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal.	Yes
School-Park	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.	Determined by location of school district property.	Variable—depends on function	Yes — but should not count school only uses.
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 1/2 to 3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.	Yes
Large Urban Park	Large urban parks serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more acres being optimal.	Yes
Natural Resource Areas	Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.	No
Greenways	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.	No
Sports Complex	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.	Strategically located community-wide facilities.	Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.	Yes
Special Use	Covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use.	Variable—dependent on specific use.	Variable.	Depends on type of use.
Private Park / Recreation Facility	Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system.	Variable—dependent on specific use.	Variable.	Depends on type of use.

Parks, Open Space, and Pathway Classifications Table (cont.)

Pathway Classifications

Classification	General Description	Description of Each Type	Application of LOS
Park Trail	Multipurpose trails located within greenways, parks, and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational value and harmony with natural environment.	Type I: Seperate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists / in-line skaters. Type II: Multipurpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists/ in-line skaters. Type III: Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard- or soft-surfaced.	Not Applicable.
Connector Trails	Multipurpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation.	Type I: Seperate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters located in independent r.o.w. (e.g., old railroad r.o.w.) Type II: Seperate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Typically located within road r.o.w.	Not Applicable.
On-Street Bikeways	Paved segments of roadways that serve as a means to safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic.	Bike Route: Designated portions of the roadway for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Bike Lane: Shared portions of the roadway that provide separation between motor vehicles and bicyclists, such as paved shoulders.	Not Applicable.
All-Terrain Bike Trail	Off-road trail for all-terrain (mountain) bikes.	Single-purpose loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.	Not Applicable.
Cross-Country Ski Trail	Trails developed for traditional and skate-style cross-country skiing.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.	Not Applicable.
Equestrian Trail	Trails developed for horseback riding.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. Sometimes developed as multipurpose with hiking and all-terrain biking where conflicts can be controlled.	Not Applicable.

Mini-Park

Used to address limited or isolated recreational needs.

General Description: Mini-park is the smallest park classification and is used to address limited or isolate recreational needs. Examples include:

- Concentrated or limited populations.
- Isolated development areas.
- Unique recretional opportunities.

In a residential setting, vest-pocket parks serve the same general purpose as mini-parks and totlots of the past. They are also intended to address unique recreational needs, such as:

- Landscaped public use area in an industrial/commercial area.
- Scenic overlooks.
- A play area adjacent to the downtown shopping district.

Although the past classification mini-park was often oriented toward active recreation, the new classification vest-pocket park has a broader application that includes both active and passive uses. Examples of passive uses includes picnic areas, arbors, and sitting areas.

Location Criteria: Although demographics and population density play a role in location, the justification for a Vest-Pocket Park lies more in servicing a specific recreational need or taking advantage of a unique opportunity. Given the potential variety of vest-pocket park activities and locations, service area will vary. In a residential setting, however, the service area is usually less than a 1/4 mile in radius. Accessibility by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets increases use opportunities and therefore is an important consideration.

Size Criteria: Typically, vest-pocket parks are between 2500 square feet and one acres in size. However, park areas less that 5 acres would technically be considered a mini-park. Anything larger would be considered a neighborhood park.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: Servicing a specific recreation need, ease of access from the surrounding area, and linkage to the community pathway system are key concerns when selecting a site.

The site itself should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for its intended uses. It should have well-drained and suitable soils with positive drainage. The desirable amount of topographical change and vegetation is dependent upon intended uses. Usually, these sites are fairly level. Vegetation (natural or planted) should be used to enhance its aesthetic qualities rather than impede development. Ideally, it should also have adjacency to other park system components, most notably greenways and the trail system.

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menus: Customer input through the customer input process should be the primary determinant of the development program for a vest-pocket park. Although these parks often included elements similar to that of a neighborhood park, there are no specific criteria to guide development of facilities. Given their size, they are typically not intended to be used for programmed activities.

Parking is typically not required. Site lighting should be used for security and safety.

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.

General Description: Neighborhood parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living within the service area. Accommodating a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and special populations, is important. Creating a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood is vital to successful design.

Location Criteria: A neighborhood park should be centrally located within its service area, which encompasses a 1/4 to 1/2 mile distance uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. These distances might vary depending on development diversity. The site should be accessible from throughout its service area by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets. Ease of access and walking distance are critical factors in locating a neighborhood park. A person's propensity to use a neighborhood park is greatly reduced if they perceive it to be difficult to access or not within a reasonable walking distance. Frequently neighborhood parks are developed adjacent to the elementary school.

Size Criteria: Demographic profiles and population density within the park's service area are the primary determinants of a neighborhood park's size. Generally, 5 acres is generally accepted as the minimum size necessary to provide space for a menu of recreation activities. 7 to 10 acres is considered optimal.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: Ease of access from the surrounding neighborhood, central location, and linkage to greenways are the key concerns when selecting a site. The site itself should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for both active and passive recreational uses. Since one of the primary reasons people go to a park is to experience a pleasant outdoor environment, the site should exhibit some innate aesthetic qualities. "Left-over" parcels of land that are undesirable for development are generally undesirable for neighborhood parks as well and should be avoided. Additionally, it is more cost effective to select a site with inherent aesthetic qualities, rather than trying to create them through extensive site development. Given the importance of location, neighborhood parks should be selected before a subdivision is platted and acquired as part of the development process.

The site should have well-drained and suitable soils and level topography. Ideally, it should be connected to other park system components such as natural resource areas, lakes, ponds, and greenways. Land within a flood plain should only be considered if the facilities are constructed above the 100 year flood elevation. Although a minimum park size of 5 acres is recommended, the actual size should be based on the land area needed to accommodate desired uses.

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menus: Since each neighborhood in a community is unique, neighborhood input should be used to determine the development

program for the park. The guidelines presented here should be used as a framework to guide program development and ensure consistency with other park system components. They should not be used as an impediment to creative design outcomes.

Development of a neighborhood park should seek to achieve a balance between active and passive park uses. Active recreational facilities are intended to be used in an informal and unstructured manner. With the exception of limited use by youth teams, neighborhood parks are not intended to be used for programmed activities that result in overuse, noise, parking problems, and congestion.

A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes play structures, court games, "informal" (i.e. non-programmed) playfield or open space, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe area, ice skating area, wading pool, and activity room. Facilities for passive activities include internal trails (that could connect to the greenway system), picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and "people watching" areas. As a general rule, active recreational facilities should consume roughly 50% of the park's acreage. The remaining 50% should be used for passive activities, reserve, ornamentation, and conservation as appropriate. Developing an appealing park atmosphere should be considered an important design element.

The site should accommodate 7 to 10 off street parking spaces, for use by those who choose or need to drive to the park. Park lighting should be used for security and safety, with very limited lighting on facilities, preferably lighted tennis courts only.

School-Park

Allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost effective manner.

General Description: By combining the resources of two public agencies, the School-Park classification allows for expanding the recreation, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Depending on the circumstances, school-park sites often complement other community open lands. As an example, an elementary/middle school site could serve as a neighborhood park. Likewise, a middle or high school could serve as a community park or as youth athletic fields. Depending on its size, one school-park site may serve in a number of capacities, such as a neighborhood park, youth athletic fields, and a school. Given the inherent variability of type, size, and location, determining how a school-park site is integrated into the park system will depend on an particular circumstances. The important outcome in the joint-use relationship is that both the school district and the park system benefit for shared us of facilities and land area.

Location Criteria: For the most part, the location of a school-park site will be determined by the school district based on local policy for the distribution of schools. Given this, the location of a school will often dictate how it is best integrated into the park and recreation system. Where planning efforts coincide, attempts should be made to coordinate the needs of the school district with that of the park and recreation system. This allows for siting, acquisition, and facility development to be responsive to community needs in a most effective and efficient manner. Service areas for school-park sites depend on the type of use. They should be surrounded by neighborhood streets.

Site Criteria: The optimum size of a school-park site is dependent upon its intended use. The size criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications should be used as appropriate. The school lands, including the building or special use facilities, should not be considered in LOS.

Site Selection Criteria/Guideline: The criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications should be used to determine how a school-park site should function. The key factor is to ensure that the site exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for intended uses.

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menus: The criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park should be used to determine how a school-park site is developed. Where feasible, if athletic fields are developed at a school-park sites, they should be oriented toward youth rather than adult programs.

Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school-park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facilities issues.

Community Park

Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.

General Description: Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods or large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible — nor perhaps desirable — at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, they should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities.

Location Criteria: A community park should serve two or more neighborhoods. Although its service area should be 0.5 to 3.0 miles in radius, the quality of the natural resource base should play a significant role in site selection. The site should be serviced by arterial and collector streets and be easily accessible from throughout its service area by way of interconnecting trails. While community parks should be strategically sited throughout the community, their locations can be significantly impacted by other types of parks. Most notable among these are school-parks, natural resource areas, and regional parks—each of which may provide some of the same recreational opportunities provided in community parks. The level of service these other parks provide should be used, in part, as justification for or against a community park in a specific area.

Size Criteria: Demographic profiles, population density, resource availability, and recreation demand within its service area are the primary determinants of a community park's size. Although an optimal size for a community park is between 20 and 50 acres, its actual size should be based on the land area needed to accommodate desired uses.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The site's natural character should play a very significant role in site selection, with emphasis on sites that preserve unique landscapes within the community and/or provide recreational opportunities not otherwise available. Ease of access from throughout the service area, geographically centered, and relationship to other park areas are also key concerns in site selection.

The site should exhibit physical characteristics appropriate for both active and passive recreation use. It should have suitable soils, positive drainage, varying topography, and a variety of vegetation. Where feasible, it should be adjacent to natural resource areas and greenways. These linkages tend to expand the recreational opportunities within the community and enhance one's perception of surrounding open space.

Depending upon their individual character and use, lakes, ponds, and rivers may be associated with either community parks or natural resource areas. Although largely a matter of semantics, Community Park and Natural Resource Area classifications differ in that the former is generally more developed for recreational use that the latter. Land within a flood plain should only be considered if the facilities are above the 100 year flood elevation. Land below that elevation would typically fall within the Natural Resource Area classification.

Development Parameters Recreation Activities Menu: Neighborhood and community input through the customer input process should be the primary determinant of development program for a community park. As with a neighborhood park, the guidelines presented in this document should be used as a framework to guide program development and ensure consistency with other park system components. They should not be used as an impediment to creative and unique design outcomes.

As stated, community parks are typically developed for both active and passive uses. Although active recreation facilities are intended to be used in an informal and unstructured manner, reserved and programmed use is compatible and acceptable. However, community parks are not intended to be used extensively for programmed adult athletic use and tournaments.

A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes large play structures and/or creative play attractions, game courts, informal ballfields for youth play, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating areas, swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, and disc golf areas. Passive activity facilities include extensive internal trails (that connect to the community trail system), individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, and ornamental gardens. Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park, are also appropriate. The distribution of land area between active and passive recreation, reserve, ornamentation, conservation, and cultural areas is determined on a site by site basis.

Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate user access. Park lighting should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities as appropriate.

Sports Complex

Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.

General Description: The Sports Complex classification consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community. This allows for:

- Economies of scale and higher quality facilities.
- Improved management/scheduling.
- Improved control of facility use.
- Greater control of negative impacts to neighborhood and community parks, such as overuse, noise, traffic congestion, parking, and domination of facilities by those outside the neighborhood.

Sports complexes should be developed to accommodate the specific needs of user groups and athletic associations based on demands and program offerings. Where possible, school-park sites should be used for youth athletics such as T-ball, soccer, and flag football, to minimize duplication of facilities. Athletic fields are a good example of the multiple use concept in park facility grouping. The fields can be used for a variety of sports so as to accommodate more participants. Also, the facility can be scheduled more heavily than a single use facility. Sports Complexes include fields and courts for softball, soccer, tennis, basketball, volleyball, and racket ball.

Location Criteria: Sport complexes should be viewed as strategically located community-wide facilities rather than serving well-defined neighborhoods or areas. They should be located within reasonable and equal driving distance from populations served. Locating them adjacent to non-residential land uses is preferred. Buffering (topographic breaks, vegetation, etc.) should be used where facilities are located adjacent to residential areas. Identifying athletic field sites prior to residential development is critical to avoiding long term conflicts. Sites should be accessible from major thoroughfares. Direct access through residential areas should be avoided. Given that athletic facilities will likely be used for league play and tournaments, access routes from outside the community should also be considered. The site should be easily accessible by way of interconnecting trails, as well.

Size Criteria: Projected facility needs based on demographic profiles, age-group population forecasts, and participation rates should be used to determine the facilities menu for a sports complex. The space requirements should be facility driven to meet projected need. Space for adequate spectator seating should be provided. Consideration should be given to acquiring an additional 20 to 25% of the total acreage for reserve against unforeseen space needs. To minimize the number of sites required, each site should be a minimum of 40 acres, with 80 to 150 acres being optimal.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The site should exhibit physical characteristics appropriate for developing athletic facilities. Topography and soils are of the utmost concern in

this instance. Although extreme topographical change should be avoided, some elevation change is desirable to allow for drainage and to give the site some character. Well-drained and suitable soils are also important. Natural vegetation along the perimeter of the site and in non-field areas is desirable in that it adds to the overall visual appeal of the site. Locating sports complexes adjacent to other park system components, especially natural resource areas and greenways, is also desirable to buffer their impact on surrounding land uses. Access to public utilities must also be considered.

Development Parameters: Projected demand for specific types of facilities should be the primary determinant of a sports complexes development program.

Sports complexes are intended for programmed athletic use, such as adult organized softball, etc. and tournaments. Sports complexes increase tourism, drawing both tournament participants and spectators. A menu of potential facilities includes ballfields, soccer fields, football fields, outdoor and indoor skating rinks, tennis courts, play structures, hardcourts, and volleyball courts. Internal trails should provide access to all facilities as well as connection to the pathway system. Group picnic areas and shelters should also be considered. Support facilities include multipurpose buildings, restrooms, and common space.

Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate participants and spectators. Lights should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities as appropriate. Field lighting should not be located so as to create a nuisance to nearby residents. Also, note that each sports governing body provides specific facility development standards.

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APPENDIX

List Of Volunteers From The Savoy
Park Plan Survey

Laura Hales
108 Paddock Dr. East
Savoy, Illinois 61874
352-3588

Desiree Gazdik
1004 Pheasant Circle
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359-5356

Dale Nussel
707 Wesley Ave.
Savoy, Illinois 61874
355-5049

John Hornaday
1411 Quail Run Dr.
Savoy, Illinois 61874
356-9748

Alicia Neils Millsap
3 Greenfield Ct.
Savoy, Illinois 61874
356-3284

Betsy and Max Mitchell
310 Floral Park Dr.
Savoy, Illinois 61874
352-7712

Jan Plotner
601 W. Church
Savoy Illinois 61874
586-3360 work

Functions of Community Parks and Recreation

Purpose: to enrich the quality of life in the community setting, by providing pleasurable and constructive leisure opportunities for residents of all ages, backgrounds, and social-economic classes.

Purpose: to contribute directly to a person's healthy physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual development, as well as to family cohesion and well-being.

Purpose: to improve the physical environment and make the community a more attractive place to live by providing a network of parks and open spaces, and by fostering positive environmental attitudes and programs.

Purpose: to strengthen neighborhood and community life by involving residents in cooperative volunteer projects or service programs to enhance civic pride and morale; also, to improve intergroup relations among different ethnic, religious or age groups.

Purpose: to meet the needs of special populations like the mentally or physically disabled, both through therapeutic recreation service in treatment programs and through community-based programs serving the disabled.

Purpose: to maintain the economic health and stability of communities by keeping neighborhoods desirable places to live, and to act as a catalyst for business development and a source of community or regional income and employment. (It is generally accepted that adequate provision for community recreation is one of the hallmarks of healthy and sound communities. When municipalities seek new business development or residential expansion, they stress their cultural, recreational, and educational resources.)

Purpose: to enrich cultural life by promoting fine and performing arts, special events, and cultural programs, and by supporting historical sites, folk heritage customs, and community arts institutions.

VILLAGE of SAVOY - A STEP TOWARD THE FUTURE

Dear Friend:

The Village of Savoy in cooperation with Eastern Illinois University Department of Recreation Administration has developed the following survey to help make decisions about the future of Savoy. The Village feels it is important to clarify the community's hopes and dreams for the future. To do so, the community must define its assets, problems, needs and goals for improvement.

YOU are asked to participate in these efforts by completing the survey. In doing so, YOU will help to mold the community's future. YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT.

You do not need to sign your name to the survey so please give your honest and sincere opinions. Please complete all questions as directed for the survey. Feel free to write any comments you might have on the last page.

Your responses will be confidential.

Thank you for your participation!

1. How many people in each age category live in your residence?
   0-19_____ 20-29_____ 30-39_____ 40-49_____ 50-59_____ 60+_____

2. Are you aware that the Village of Savoy is considering a new community center?
   Yes____ No____

3. Do you think the Village of Savoy should build a community center? Yes____
   No____ No Opinion____

4. Currently the Village of Savoy has about 12 acres of land devoted to parks. The national standards say we should have approximately 50 acres of parks. Do you feel the Village should have an active program to acquire more open space? Yes____
   No____ No Opinion____

5. Do you think it is a good idea to have a satellite library in a new community center?
   Yes____ No____ No opinion_____

6. Should the Village of Savoy build a new outdoor Swimming pool? Yes_____
   No _____ No Opinion _____

7. Would you support using property taxes to finance new park and recreation facilities?
   Yes____ No____ No Opinion ____

8. Would you support using property taxes to cover costs above and beyond what fund raising and grants do not cover? Yes ____ No ____ No Opinion ____

9. Would you consider a construction donation in support of new park and recreation facilities? Yes____ No ____ No Opinion ____

10. Would you support a ½ cent sales tax to help with land acquisition and park development? Yes____ No ____ No Opinion ____

11. If a new community center were built in Savoy would you be willing to pay a reasonable fee to participate in programs? Yes ____ No ____ No Opinion ____

12. Would you or your family support a community center in Savoy with your attendance/participation? Yes ____ No ____ No Opinion ____

13. We appreciate your comments here:

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Savoy village, Illinois

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	**4,476**	**100.0**
SEX AND AGE		
Male	2,051	45.8
Female	2,425	54.2
Under 5 years	369	8.2
5 to 9 years	260	5.8
10 to 14 years	197	4.4
15 to 19 years	171	3.8
20 to 24 years	409	9.1
25 to 34 years	920	20.6
35 to 44 years	627	14.0
45 to 54 years	552	12.3
55 to 59 years	177	4.0
60 to 64 years	130	2.9
65 to 74 years	231	5.2
75 to 84 years	235	5.3
85 years and over	198	4.4
Median age (years)	33.6	(X)
18 years and over	3,532	78.9
Male	1,576	35.2
Female	1,956	43.7
21 years and over	3,433	76.7
62 years and over	730	16.3
65 years and over	664	14.8
Male	230	5.1
Female	434	9.7
RACE		
One race	4,375	97.7
White	3,644	81.4
Black or African American	202	4.5
American Indian and Alaska Native	7	0.2
Asian	485	10.8
Asian Indian	101	2.3
Chinese	96	2.1
Filipino	15	0.3
Japanese	10	0.2
Korean	229	5.1
Vietnamese	1	-
Other Asian [1]	33	0.7
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2	-
Native Hawaiian	1	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	-	-
Samoan	-	-
Other Pacific Islander [2]	1	-
Some other race	35	0.8
Two or more races	101	2.3
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races: [3]		
White	3,738	83.5
Black or African American	222	5.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	26	0.6
Asian	514	11.5
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	2	-
Some other race	77	1.7

Subject	Number	Percent
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Total population	**4,476**	**100.0**
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	95	2.1
Mexican	42	0.9
Puerto Rican	26	0.6
Cuban	4	0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino	23	0.5
Not Hispanic or Latino	4,381	97.9
White alone	3,592	80.3
RELATIONSHIP		
Total population	**4,476**	**100.0**
In households	4,347	97.1
Householder	2,032	45.4
Spouse	980	21.9
Child	1,058	23.6
Own child under 18 years	918	20.5
Other relatives	63	1.4
Under 18 years	17	0.4
Nonrelatives	214	4.8
Unmarried partner	85	1.9
In group quarters	129	2.9
Institutionalized population	129	2.9
Noninstitutionalized population	-	-
HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Total households	**2,032**	**100.0**
Family households (families)	1,127	55.5
With own children under 18 years	530	26.1
Married-couple family	980	48.2
With own children under 18 years	441	21.7
Female householder, no husband present	117	5.8
With own children under 18 years	71	3.5
Nonfamily households	905	44.5
Householder living alone	743	36.6
Householder 65 years and over	245	12.1
Households with individuals under 18 years	549	27.0
Households with individuals 65 years and over	422	20.8
Average household size	2.14	(X)
Average family size	2.86	(X)
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	**2,099**	**100.0**
Occupied housing units	2,032	96.8
Vacant housing units	67	3.2
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	15	0.7
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	1.0	(X)
Rental vacancy rate (percent)	2.8	(X)
HOUSING TENURE		
Occupied housing units	**2,032**	**100.0**
Owner-occupied housing units	924	45.5
Renter-occupied housing units	1,108	54.5
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.46	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied units	1.87	(X)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

[1] Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

[2] Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

[3] In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Champaign township, Champaign County, Illinois

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	**11,591**	**100.0**
SEX AND AGE		
Male	5,562	48.0
Female	6,029	52.0
Under 5 years	801	6.9
5 to 9 years	823	7.1
10 to 14 years	804	6.9
15 to 19 years	696	6.0
20 to 24 years	693	6.0
25 to 34 years	1,530	13.2
35 to 44 years	1,826	15.8
45 to 54 years	1,943	16.8
55 to 59 years	644	5.6
60 to 64 years	430	3.7
65 to 74 years	702	6.1
75 to 84 years	466	4.0
85 years and over	233	2.0
Median age (years)	37.7	(X)
18 years and over	8,662	74.7
Male	4,078	35.2
Female	4,584	39.5
21 years and over	8,346	72.0
62 years and over	1,634	14.1
65 years and over	1,401	12.1
Male	594	5.1
Female	807	7.0
RACE		
One race	11,377	98.2
White	9,687	83.6
Black or African American	629	5.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	16	0.1
Asian	972	8.4
Asian Indian	206	1.8
Chinese	262	2.3
Filipino	34	0.3
Japanese	38	0.3
Korean	339	2.9
Vietnamese	28	0.2
Other Asian [1]	65	0.6
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	-
Native Hawaiian	1	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	-	-
Samoan	-	-
Other Pacific Islander [2]	-	-
Some other race	72	0.6
Two or more races	214	1.8
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races: [3]		
White	9,888	85.3
Black or African American	684	5.9
American Indian and Alaska Native	56	0.5
Asian	1,048	9.0
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	-
Some other race	134	1.2

Subject	Number	Percent
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Total population	**11,591**	**100.0**
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	196	1.7
Mexican	94	0.8
Puerto Rican	35	0.3
Cuban	8	0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino	59	0.5
Not Hispanic or Latino	11,395	98.3
White alone	9,580	82.7
RELATIONSHIP		
Total population	**11,591**	**100.0**
In households	11,462	98.9
Householder	4,677	40.4
Spouse	2,906	25.1
Child	3,307	28.5
Own child under 18 years	2,840	24.5
Other relatives	218	1.9
Under 18 years	60	0.5
Nonrelatives	354	3.1
Unmarried partner	131	1.1
In group quarters	129	1.1
Institutionalized population	129	1.1
Noninstitutionalized population	-	-
HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Total households	**4,677**	**100.0**
Family households (families)	3,256	69.6
With own children under 18 years	1,574	33.7
Married-couple family	2,906	62.1
With own children under 18 years	1,352	28.9
Female householder, no husband present	258	5.5
With own children under 18 years	171	3.7
Nonfamily households	1,421	30.4
Householder living alone	1,175	25.1
Householder 65 years and over	372	8.0
Households with individuals under 18 years	1,625	34.7
Households with individuals 65 years and over	923	19.7
Average household size	2.45	(X)
Average family size	2.98	(X)
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	**4,849**	**100.0**
Occupied housing units	4,677	96.5
Vacant housing units	172	3.5
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	30	0.6
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	1.7	(X)
Rental vacancy rate (percent)	2.7	(X)
HOUSING TENURE		
Occupied housing units	**4,677**	**100.0**
Owner-occupied housing units	3,215	68.7
Renter-occupied housing units	1,462	31.3
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.69	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied units	1.93	(X)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

[1] Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

[2] Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

[3] In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Champaign County, Illinois

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent
Total population	**179,669**	**100.0**
SEX AND AGE		
Male	90,306	50.3
Female	89,363	49.7
Under 5 years	10,417	5.8
5 to 9 years	10,567	5.9
10 to 14 years	10,590	5.9
15 to 19 years	19,714	11.0
20 to 24 years	27,963	15.6
25 to 34 years	26,433	14.7
35 to 44 years	24,170	13.5
45 to 54 years	20,424	11.4
55 to 59 years	6,530	3.6
60 to 64 years	5,391	3.0
65 to 74 years	9,114	5.1
75 to 84 years	6,078	3.4
85 years and over	2,278	1.3
Median age (years)	28.6	(X)
18 years and over	141,850	79.0
Male	70,825	39.4
Female	71,025	39.5
21 years and over	120,471	67.1
62 years and over	20,593	11.5
65 years and over	17,470	9.7
Male	7,181	4.0
Female	10,289	5.7
RACE		
One race	176,094	98.0
White	141,536	78.8
Black or African American	20,045	11.2
American Indian and Alaska Native	433	0.2
Asian	11,592	6.5
Asian Indian	2,435	1.4
Chinese	3,705	2.1
Filipino	686	0.4
Japanese	564	0.3
Korean	2,461	1.4
Vietnamese	651	0.4
Other Asian [1]	1,090	0.6
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	72	-
Native Hawaiian	17	-
Guamanian or Chamorro	10	-
Samoan	17	-
Other Pacific Islander [2]	28	-
Some other race	2,416	1.3
Two or more races	3,575	2.0
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races: [3]		
White	144,520	80.4
Black or African American	21,489	12.0
American Indian and Alaska Native	1,170	0.7
Asian	12,749	7.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	228	0.1
Some other race	3,323	1.8

Subject	Number	Percent
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
Total population	**179,669**	**100.0**
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	5,203	2.9
Mexican	2,987	1.7
Puerto Rican	512	0.3
Cuban	137	0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino	1,567	0.9
Not Hispanic or Latino	174,466	97.1
White alone	139,143	77.4
RELATIONSHIP		
Total population	**179,669**	**100.0**
In households	164,831	91.7
Householder	70,597	39.3
Spouse	30,766	17.1
Child	41,609	23.2
Own child under 18 years	34,766	19.4
Other relatives	4,865	2.7
Under 18 years	1,982	1.1
Nonrelatives	16,994	9.5
Unmarried partner	3,619	2.0
In group quarters	14,838	8.3
Institutionalized population	1,479	0.8
Noninstitutionalized population	13,359	7.4
HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Total households	**70,597**	**100.0**
Family households (families)	39,308	55.7
With own children under 18 years	19,204	27.2
Married-couple family	30,766	43.6
With own children under 18 years	13,775	19.5
Female householder, no husband present	6,489	9.2
With own children under 18 years	4,337	6.1
Nonfamily households	31,289	44.3
Householder living alone	22,191	31.4
Householder 65 years and over	5,491	7.8
Households with individuals under 18 years	20,576	29.1
Households with individuals 65 years and over	12,315	17.4
Average household size	2.33	(X)
Average family size	2.96	(X)
HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Total housing units	**75,280**	**100.0**
Occupied housing units	70,597	93.8
Vacant housing units	4,683	6.2
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	214	0.3
Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)	1.6	(X)
Rental vacancy rate (percent)	6.9	(X)
HOUSING TENURE		
Occupied housing units	**70,597**	**100.0**
Owner-occupied housing units	39,329	55.7
Renter-occupied housing units	31,268	44.3
Average household size of owner-occupied units	2.53	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied units	2.09	(X)

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

[1] Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

[2] Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

[3] In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

APPENDIX 1

THE THREE COLLECTIVE PUBLIC BENEFITS THAT MAY ACCRUE FROM PARK AND RECREATION SERVICES[1]

The provision of park and recreation opportunities for their own sake still lacks political clout. They have to be shown to solve community problems before politicians see them as being worthy of funding. Many taxpayers are not frequent users of park and recreation services and, thus, have difficulty understanding why they should support them. The prevailing sentiment is often: If only some segments of our community use park and recreation services, then why should the rest of us have to pay for them? To gain the support of non-users, an agency has to provide a convincing answer to the question "What is in it for them?" Broader community support is likely to be dependent on building awareness not only of the on-site benefits that accrue to users, but also of the off-site benefits that accrue to non-users in communities.

There is increased recognition that while benefit driven programs may lead to higher levels of satisfaction among participants and attract increased numbers, such individual "private" benefits have relatively little impact on resource allocation decisions made by elected officials. These benefits are described as individual or "private" because they accrue only to program participants and do not extend to the majority of the population who are only occasional users or non-users. Providing resources to a parks and recreation department so a minority of residents can have enjoyable experiences is likely to be a low priority when measured against the critical economic, health, safety and welfare issues with which most legislative bodies are confronted.

To justify the allocation of additional resources, elected officials have to be convinced that park and recreation agencies deliver collective "public" benefits. These are defined as benefits that accrue to most people in a community, even though they do not participate in

1 An expanded discussion of these benefits can be found in Chapter 5 of a book: John L. Crompton (1999) *Financing and Acquiring Park and Recreation Resources*, Champaign, Illinois: Human Kinetics.

an agency's programs or use its facilities. There are just three of these public benefits: **economic development; alleviating social problems; and environmental stewardship.** However, even these three categories of public benefits receive funding support only when they are regarded as being high priority in a community. Hence, the task of a park and recreation agency is to identify which of these public benefits is most prominent on a jurisdiction's political agenda, and to demonstrate the agency's potential contribution to fulfilling that agenda.

Economic Development

Economic development is viewed as a means of enlarging the tax base. The enlargement provides more tax revenues that governments can use either to improve the community's infrastructure, facilities, and services or to reduce the level of taxes that existing residents pay. It is seen also as a source of jobs and income that enables residents to improve their quality of life. In some communities, park and recreation agencies play a major role in economic development. That role may take the form of:

(i) **Attracting Tourists**: The major factor considered by tourists when they make a decision which communities to visit on a pleasure trip, is the attractions that are available. In most cities, those attractions are dominated by facilities and services operated by park and recreation agencies and their non-profit partners (parks, beaches, events, festivals, athletic tournaments, museums, historical sites, cultural performances, etc.). Without such attractions, there is no tourism.

(ii) **Attracting Businesses:** The viability of businesses in the highly recruited high-technology, research and development, company headquarters, and services sectors, in many cases is dependent on their ability to attract and retain highly educated professional employees. The deciding factor of where these individual choose to live is often the quality of life in the geographic vicinity of the business. No matter how quality of life is defined, park and recreation opportunities are likely to be a major component of it.

(iii) **Attracting Retirees**. A new clean growth industry in America today is the growing number of relatively affluent, active retirees. Their decisions as to where to locate with their substantial retirement incomes is primarily governed by two factors: climate and recreational opportunities.

(iv) **Enhancing Real Estate Values**. People are prepared to pay more to live close to natural park areas. The enhanced value of these properties results in their owners paying higher property taxes to governments. If the incremental amount of taxes paid by each property that is attributable to the park is aggregated, it is often sufficient to pay the annual debt charges required to retire the bonds used to acquire and develop the park.

Alleviating Social Problems

(i) **Preventing Youth Crime**. The use of park and recreation programs to alleviate youth crime was a primary political stimulant for much of the early recreation provision in major cities at the beginning of the 20th century. There is strong evidence demonstrating the success of these programs when they are structured to provide: social support from adult leaders; leadership opportunities for youth; intensive and individualized attention to participants; a sense of group belonging; youth input into program decisions; and opportunities for community service. The return on investment of such programs is substantial when it is re-

lated to the costs of incarceration.

(ii) **Healthy Lifestyles**. There is growing recognition that the key to curtailing health care costs lies in prevention of illness so it does not have to be treated by the expensive medical system. Park and recreation services contribute to this end not only by facilitating improvements in physical fitness through exercise, but also by facilitating positive emotional, intellectual and social experiences. People with high levels of wellness have a proclivity to act during their free time, rather than merely be acted on.

(iii) **Environmental Stress.** Environmental stress may involve both psychological emotions, such as frustrations, anger, fear and coping responses, and associated physiological responses that use energy and contribute to fatigue. It is experienced daily by many who live or commute in urban or blighted areas. Parks in urban settings have a restorative effect that releases the tensions of modern life. Evidence demonstrating the therapeutic value of natural settings has emerged in both physiological and psychological studies. The cost of environmental stress in terms of work days lost and medical care is likely to be substantially greater than the cost of providing and maintaining parks, urban forestry programs, and oases of flowers and shrubs.

(iv) **Unemployment and Underemployment.** Basic psychological needs that many people derive from their work are difficult to acquire when unemployed or working in low-level service jobs such as cashiers, janitors and cleaners which are the major growth positions in the economy. Such needs may include self-esteem, prestige accruing from peer group recognition, ego satisfaction of achievement, a desire to be successful, excitement and self-worth. For the growing number of people in low level jobs, these needs will be obtained in their familial or leisure milieus, or they will not be obtained at all.

Environmental Stewardship

(i) **Historical Preservation**. Without a cultural history, people are rootless. Preserving historical remnants offers lingering evidence to remind people of what they once were, who they are, what they are and where they are. It feeds their sense of history.

(ii) **The Natural Environment**. People turn to the natural environment, preserved by humans as a park, wilderness, or wildlife refuge, for something they cannot get in a built environment. The quality of human life depends on an ecological sustainable and aesthetically pleasing physical environment. The surge of interest in conserving open spaces from people motivated by ecological and aesthetic concerns, is matched by a similar surge from those concerned that the inexorable rise in demands for outdoor recreation is not being matched by a commensurate expansion of the supply base.

The real estate market consistently demonstrates that many people are willing to pay a larger amount for a property located close to parks and open space areas than for a home that does not offer this amenity. The higher value of these residences means that their owners pay higher property taxes. In effect, this represents a "capitalization" of park land into increased property values of proximate land owners.

This process of capitalization is termed the "proximate principle." It means that in some instances if the incremental amount of taxes paid by each property which is attributable to the presence of a nearby park is aggregated, it will be sufficient to pay the annual debt charges required to retire the bonds used to acquire and develop the park. In these circumstances, the park is obtained at no long-term cost to the jurisdiction.

In an illustrative hypothetical scenario a city council may invest $90,000 a year for 20 years (annual debt charges on a $1 million bond) to construct or renovate a park; which causes the values of properties proximate to the park to increase; leading to higher taxes paid by the proximate property owners to the council; that are sufficient to fully reimburse the $90,000 annual investment made by the council.

In most contexts where parks enhance property values, the increments of property tax which accrue go into the general fund along with all other property taxes. However, three vehicles are discussed which directly capture the incremental gains and use them to pay for park acquisition and development costs by retaining the increments in a separate account for that purpose. These vehicles are excess purchase / condemnation, special assessment districts, and tax-increment financing districts.

The proximate principle was first promulgated and empirically verified in the parks field by Frederick Law Olmsted in the context of Central Park in New York City. The documented evidence from Central Park established the proximate principle as conventional wisdom among elected officials and planners as well as park advocates in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. As a result, it

was used to justify major early park investments in many U.S. cities. Other early empirical studies undertaken in two New Jersey County Park Systems also endorsed the legitimacy of the proximate principle.

In the first third of the twentieth century, developments of parkways and playgrounds were considered to be as central economic, social and political issues, as the development of parks. Hence, studies on their impacts on proximate property were also undertaken. Although these studies showed substantial gains in proximate property values associated with parkway developments, historical perspective suggests that much of the value increase was attributable to more effective and efficient access for traffic and transit, rather than to the parkways' aesthetics. Early conventional wisdom held that playgrounds were likely to depreciate land values in their vicinity, but the evidence from empirical studies in the 1920s suggested this concern was generally unfounded.

These early studies were fairly naive, reflecting the underdeveloped nature of the statistical tools and research designs available in the first third of the twentieth century. All property value increases were attributed to the proximity of a park and the potential influences of other factors were ignored, such as house age and size; lot size; distance to city center or major shopping center; and access to other amenities such as schools and health care facilities. Although historical perspective suggests the findings reported by these studies may have been exaggerated because of their design failings, they illustrate the rich historical pedigree and tradition of the proximate principle, and its effectiveness in persuading decision-makers to invest in parks.

The limitations of the early studies were much better controlled in the later empirical studies which were all undertaken after 1960, except for one pioneering pathfinding study completed in the late 1930s. These later studies were designed to address three key questions. The *first* question asked whether parks and open space contributed to increasing proximate property values. Results from 25 studies that investigated this issue were reviewed and in 20 of them the empirical evidence was supportive.

The support extended beyond urban areas to include properties that were proximate to large state parks, forests and open space in rural areas. The rural studies offered empirical evidence to support not only the proximate principle, but also to refute the conventional wisdom that creating large state or federal park or forest areas results in a net reduction in the value of an area's tax base.

Six of the supportive studies further investigated whether there were differences in the magnitude of impact among parks with different design features and different types of uses. The findings demonstrated that parks serving primarily active recreation areas were likely to show much smaller proximate value increases than those accommodating only passive use. However, even with the noise, nuisance and congestion emanating from active users, in most cases proximate properties tended to show increases in value when compared to properties outside a park's service zone. Impacts on proximate values were not likely to be positive in those cases where (i) a park was not well maintained; (ii) a park was not easily visible from nearby streets and, thus, provided opportunities for anti-social behavior; and (iii) the privacy of properties backing on to a linear park was compromised by park users.

Examination of the five studies that did not support the proximate principle suggested that in four of those cases the ambivalent findings may be attributed to methodological limitations.

The *second* question that the later empirical studies sought to answer related to the magnitude of the proximate effect. A definitive

generalizable answer is not feasible given the substantial variation in both the size, usage and design of park lands in the studies, and the disparity in the residential areas around them which were investigated. However, some point of departure based on the findings reported here is needed for decision-makers in communities who try to adapt these results to their local context. To meet this need, it is suggested that a positive impact of 20% on property values abutting or fronting a passive park area is a reasonable starting point guideline. If the park is large (say over 25 acres), well-maintained, attractive, and its use is mainly passive, then this figure is likely to be low. If it is small and embraces some active use, then this guideline is likely to be high. If it is a heavily used park incorporating such recreation facilities as athletic fields or a swimming pool, then the proximate value increment may be minimal on abutting properties but may reach 10% on properties two or three blocks away.

The diversity of the study contexts also makes it non-feasible to offer a generalizable definitive answer to the *third* question addressed by the empirical studies which concerned the distance over which the proximate impact of park land and open space extends. However, there was convincing evidence that it is likely to have substantial impact up to 500 feet and that in the case of community sized parks it is likely to extend out to 2,000 feet. Few studies tried to identify impacts beyond that distance because of the compounding complexity created by other potentially influencing variables which increases as distance from a park increases. Nevertheless, in the case of these larger parks there was evidence to suggest impact extended beyond this artificial peripheral boundary, since the catchment area from which users came usually extended beyond it.

It is often argued that in addition to acquisition and development costs, and operating and maintenance costs, there is a substantial opportunity cost associated with allocating land for public parks. Because park land is publicly owned it is exempt from property taxes. Hence, the opportunity cost is the loss of property tax income that jurisdictions would have received if the land had been developed for other purposes. The conventional wisdom which prevails among many decision-makers and taxpayers is that development is the "highest and best use" of vacant land for increasing municipal revenues. This conventional wisdom is reinforced by developers who claim their projects "pay for themselves and then some." They exhort that their developments will increase a community's tax base and thereby lower each existing resident's property tax payments.

However, in recent years some communities have commissioned fiscal impact analyses. Findings from these analyses have challenged conventional wisdom. They have consistently shown that the public costs associated with new residential development exceed the public revenues that accrue from it. This is because people who reside in developments require services. In contrast, natural parks and open space require few public services -- no roads, no schools, no sewage, no solid waste disposal, no water, and minimal fire and police protection.

A review of over 60 fiscal impact studies clearly indicated that preserving open space is likely to be a less expensive alternative for communities than residential development. On average, for every $1 million received in revenues from residential developments, the communities had to expend $1.15 million to service them. This suggests that if the area of land on which a development generating $1 million in revenues is located was used as a park instead, then if the park's operation and maintenance costs did not exceed $150,000 the community would financially benefit.

In the 1990s, there was an explosion of interest in developing greenways. The rationale underlying the proposition that greenway trails may positively influence property values is different from that associated with parks. Unlike parks, any added property value is not likely to come from the views of nature or open space which a property owner enjoys because in most cases, especially in urban trail contexts, there are no such vistas. Rather, any added value derives from access to the linear trail. It is a trail's functionality or activity potential that is likely to confer added value, not the panorama of attractive open space.

The literature investigating the proximate principle in the context of greenways is sparse, but a consistent pattern emerges from it. There is broad consensus that trails have no negative impact on either the saleability of property (easier or more difficult to sell) or its value. There is a belief among some, typically between 20% and 40% of a sample, that there is a positive impact on saleability and value. However, the dominant sentiment is that the presence of a trail has no impact on these issues.

Almost 1,000 golf courses incorporated as central features of real estate developments were constructed in the U.S. in the 1990s. Developers include golf courses to increase the land values in their projects and to accelerate the absorption of real estate, i.e. to sell their lots more quickly.

Contemporary golf courses exemplify the important role of "edge" in maximizing real estate values. Traditional, almost rectangular shaped courses similar to the shape of traditional parks, have been discarded in favor of linear courses which can accommodate much more real estate frontage. Lots and houses throughout a golf-course community bring substantial premiums over comparable lots/units in non-golf developments.

The developers' strategy mirrors that which has been advocated by supporters of public parks and open space for over a century, i.e. parks are an investment not a cost because they generate more property taxes for a city than it costs to service the annual debt charges incurred in creating the amenities. The high visibility, large number, and success of these golf course developments demonstrates by analogy to governmental stakeholders and decision-makers the viability of the proximate principle in the context of park land and open space.